



# *Buffalo County Emergency Management 2007 Year End Report*



## **INTRODUCTION**

2007 started off where 2006 left off, Buffalo County was hit with back to back massive ice storms leaving the county powerless, that is to say without electricity for days, weeks and months in some places. The emergency management action did not stop there, with extensive wind damage and flooding reported in many areas of Buffalo County during the spring and summer months. Many of the 2006/2007 goals have been met again with the exception of the mitigation plan; we were waiting on the state and the NRD. With those two agencies not coming through with the development of a regional plan, the Buffalo County Emergency Management office started the development of a Mitigation plan for Buffalo County. This plan was once again put on hold for development at the local level as the NRD and the State of Nebraska has again started talking about producing this plan at the regional level.

The Homeland Security grants continued to keep this office involved over the last year although the grants and the time spent on the grants have slowed quite a bit. Five Regional Homeland Security grants were written for projects at the Local level and two additional regional grants for a 15 county regional projects were written by this office in 2007. Homeland Security Grant money was not given to the local level based on projects in 2007, all grant funding was given at the regional level, for communications projects to support State Interoperable Communications projects. Writing the grants, meeting all the new and old guidelines and benchmarks set by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Government, ordering, acquiring and distributing the requested equipment to all agencies within Buffalo County, and planning and conducting exercises and training has kept this office very busy. Buffalo County and the State of Nebraska had a very mild storm season resulting in a fairly quiet year as far as weather is concerned. Notable weather related activities this year is that Buffalo County continues to be above the normal average rain fall for the 2007 year, the January ice storm, and May and June wind and flooding damage due to severe thunderstorms.

This annual report will highlight the major activities of the Buffalo County Emergency Management office. It is not inclusive of the everyday meetings and activities of the Emergency Management Office for Buffalo County.

### **Emergency Management Concept**

The four phases of comprehensive emergency management are mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Each phase results from the previous one and establishes the requirements of the next. This past year the City of Kearney/Buffalo County Emergency Management Office focused on all four phases not only in training but real life emergency incidents.

The EOC (Emergency Operations Center) was opened on several different occasions throughout the spring and summer months. As well as December 2006 and carried over into the January 2007 month due to the Winter Ice Storms of December 19<sup>th</sup> through Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. The EOC was open and operational for 10 days straight, 24 hours a day, during the Ice Storm incident. Power outages and cold weather for long durations were the major concern for public safety.

The Emergency Management office continues to partner with many community groups and agencies involved in the area of public safety. In the year 2007, the Emergency Management Director served on the Buffalo County LEPC as the Vice Chairman; Buffalo County Mutual Aid Association to work countywide with fire, EMS, and law enforcement; worked with the Midway Amateur Radio Club to coordinate with the ARES members that serve as storm spotters for the City of Kearney; the Technician Level Hazmat Team continues to operate with the resignation of 2 team member and the addition of 2 more members, the Emergency Manager serves as the administrator of this team. (CNRI) Central Nebraska Regions for Interoperability was started in 2004 and has grown to include a 22 county region over the last 4 years. A lot of work has gone into the project over the last year and will continue into 2008. (CNPADC) Central Nebraska Public Access Defibrillator Coalition was developed in 2004 and has completed its third and final year of funding as of August 31, 2007. This is a 20 county region to place AED's in public locations over three years. CNPADC has placed over 450 AED's in public locations in the past 3 years with 12 recorded lifesaving events with the use of the devices we have put in place. (COAD) Community Organizations Active in Disasters was developed in the Buffalo County/Kearney area and continues to go strong with our new first annual Public Safety Awareness Day event held at the Hill Top Mall. (TRMRS) Tri-City Rural Medical Response System being developed in 2004 and as of 2007 has expanded to an MRC (Medical Response Corp) for Central Nebraska. Both groups continued to work on vital plans for emergency response and recovery in 2007. The CERT (Citizen Emergency Response Team) program was started in a regional area to include Buffalo County in 2006. This program was scrapped in 2007 due to losing our volunteer coordinator for the program. Buffalo County Emergency Management and the Two Rivers Public Health continue to work closely together as a partnership in planning for Pandemic Influenza, and completing the Regional Emergency Response ID system.

Buffalo County had average to below average severe weather activity for the 2007 year particularly in the spring and summer months. The busiest months for weather activity were in the months of May, July, August and September. The warning sirens in Buffalo County were activated on 2 different occasions during the summer months of 2007, once on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and once on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Kearney and Buffalo County were placed under Severe Thunderstorm / Tornado watches or warnings 34 times, had 6 flash flood warnings, and 4 winter weather advisories in the 2007 year. Although Buffalo County was above average rain

fall for the year, the previous year's drought is still showing its effects in Buffalo County. The drought continues to be a concern for Buffalo County and the negative impact on agriculture and water resources in 2007 and the years to come. The Kearney area and Buffalo County received 30.37" of precipitation for the year, above the annual average by 5.17". This precipitation report could be off by more than an inch or two due to the damage the collection instruments sustained during the ice storm in January. There were several inches of rain not recorded during that time.

## MISSION AND VALUES STATEMENT

### Mission Statement

To provide a prepared and capable emergency management program for Buffalo County through training, community education, and preparedness by providing information and education to the general public, area emergency responders, and volunteers.

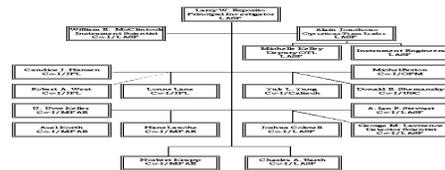
### Values Statement

Emergency Management is by function and by law a cooperative effort on the part of all levels of government and the private sector. At the local level, Emergency Management is concerned with the protection and education of the public from the hazards and risks that affect them. The credibility of the program resides in the credibility of the program advocate. The Emergency Manager should exemplify the utility of the emergency management program.

The job of the Emergency Manager is defined by law. It does, however, have a moral basis. The emergency manager must balance the duties authorized and required by law with the moral obligation of the public employee to do everything possible to protect and preserve the safety of citizens in the city and county.

Emergency Management expresses a strong commitment to provide interagency cooperation and coordination of activities relating to mitigation of, prevention of, preparedness for, response to, and recovery from disasters and emergencies.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The Emergency Manager is an appointed position responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of an emergency management system in Buffalo County to save lives and protect property. Such emergency management system shall include disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response and recovery capabilities. The incumbent is charged with making certain that the components of the emergency management system know the threats to the jurisdiction, planning for emergencies, being able to function effectively in an emergency, and conducting recovery operations following a disaster.

The position requires direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the Buffalo County Emergency Management System, subject to the direction and control of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors. The position serves as the principal advisor to the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors in disaster/emergency matters. Supervision of day-to-day activities shall be directed by the Buffalo County Sheriff and Kearney Chief of Police.

The incumbent, in discharging duties, must work with elected and appointed officials of the local governments, of the state and of the Federal government, and private sector interests.

The incumbent is given broad and extensive authority to determine program priorities, requirements and procedures so as to implement and support the local, state and national programs and objectives. Completed work is reviewed in terms of net results and the achievement of broad objectives and conformance with general policies. Job effectiveness can be determined by the ability of the Buffalo County Emergency Manager to take the lead in developing local capabilities to mitigate disasters/emergencies and conduct coordinated operations in disasters/emergencies, making maximum use of all public and private resources available.



## TRAINING

As required by the Nebraska Emergency Management Act, Section 81-829.46 (6), which requires the “*Director to devote full time to the duties of emergency management, and that he/she shall be qualified and certified in accord with criteria established for the state by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency,*” all courses were completed by the Director to fulfill the Basic Certification requirement before hire. In addition to this certification, completed in 2005 was the Nebraska Emergency Management Advanced Certification for

Emergency Management as well as meeting all NIMS compliances, ie. IS 100, 200, 700, and 800. In 2006, the FEMA Professional Certification was obtained In 2007, the NIMS 300 and 400 certification was accomplished.

**Additionally, the Director attended or conducted the following non-NEMA courses / conferences:**

Homeland Security Conferences

MOU Conference

Severe Weather Spotter Training

Central District Conference

State Wide Tornado Drill

NAEM Conference

Central District Meeting

NACO Convention

Homeland Security Grant Conference

LEPC Conference

2007 Grant Training

Pandemic Influenza Tabletop Exercise

Pandemic Influenza Town Hall meeting

(4) Hazmat Decontamination Shower Training

Amateur Radio ARES Full Scale Exercise

Medical Surge tabletop

Hazmat ID Smith Detection Training

COAD Tabletop training

CASM tool training

Nebraska Hazardous Materials Association Conference

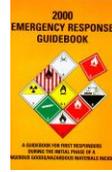
Red Cross electronic Shelter Tracking training

Recovery and Handling of Radiologically Contaminated Human Remains

## **LEPC**

### **LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Buffalo County LEPC is a component of the emergency management program. The Director is responsible for reviewing and maintaining Tier II reports, filing LEPC minutes from the quarterly meetings, maintaining the membership roll, maintaining spill reports, and compiling this information to send to the SERC (State Emergency Response Commission) for the Buffalo County LEPC. This year the LEPC has been derailed somewhat we have been less active this year than in years past. It is hoped that this committee will get back on track in 2008.

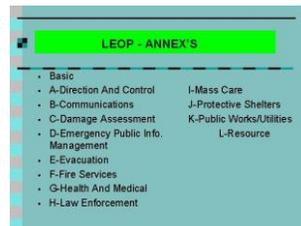


## TIER II REPORTS

All copies of Tier II reports filed by facilities in Buffalo County that are required by the Community Right-To-Know Act to report hazardous substances are placed on file in the Emergency Management Director's office. The facilities are required to update the reports on a yearly basis and are reviewed by the Director for the HAZMAT Annex of the LEOP and for the yearly report sent to the SERC. Members of the Buffalo County LEPC, as required by law, also complete a review of the Tier II reports. Copies of filed MSDS sheets are also available in the Director's office.

## CONTINGENCY PLANS

The Director maintains all contingency plans filed by facilities in Buffalo County that are required to file the plans, or do so because they understand the importance of providing the information for emergency planning and response.



## RMP (RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS)

Thirteen facilities in Buffalo County were required by law to file Risk Management Plans. This is a requirement by the EPA. The Risk Management Plans are on file in the Director's office and are also available on the secure portion of the EPA website.



The Director received notification involving radioactive transports of spent fuel and low specific activity materials prior to the shipments entering Buffalo County. Notices were made to the appropriate agencies that would respond in a radiological incident. The transport reports were down this year. I have been informed that this is due to transportation regulation changes on reporting requirements as well as less radioactive transports through Nebraska and Buffalo County.



## EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM

The Director, Communications Supervisor, and Communications Officers conducted monthly tests of the alarm radios, pagers and outdoor warning system throughout the year. During the scheduled tests, no sirens reported failures. I contribute this to conducting pre-maintenance services on the sirens during the month of March within the Kearney area. Seven sirens were found to be in failure at that time and were repaired by Platte Valley Communications.



The Dialogic High Speed Notification System continues to be a good addition to the notification process. This system is used to call up special response units, i.e. Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Hazmat Teams, etc. It is also used to complete general notifications to the citizens of Buffalo County for any emergency that a person could imagine. From hazmat spills, a tornado warning, flash flood, evacuation, school closings, or simple road closings, the possibilities are endless. This system was used extensively during the Ice storm to inform citizens of shelters, warming stations, showers, and other general information during the disaster. This system is now being used to assist in the UNK notifications for faculty and students a like. We lost the operating system on the server that runs this notification system in 2007. Vital information was lost when this happened; much time has been put into regaining this information over the last half of 2007.

## WEATHER



## WEATHER



The following list indicates the number of watches, warnings and winter weather advisories by the months they occurred in.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Watch</b>	<b>Warning</b>	<b>Winter Weather Advisories</b>
January	0	0	2
February	0	1	2
March	0	0	0
April	3	2	0
May	6	8	0
June	2	0	0
July	3	2	0
August	2	3	0
Sept.	2	3	0
October	1	0	0
November	0	0	0
December	0	0	1

## BUDGET

The Emergency Management budget for the fiscal 2006 year stayed under budget and was closed out. The new fiscal 2007 Budget was approved by the Board of Supervisors Budget Committee. The Buffalo County Emergency Management Department budget for 2007 is \$93,345.00. This is an increase of \$2,215.36, less than a 3% increase from the 2006 budget.

The EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant) for the fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008 has become a three year grant and was approved in early 2007. This program is designed to reimburse the Emergency Management budget up to 50%. The program is administered through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency which assisted the Buffalo County Emergency Management budget at 46% for the 2006 fiscal budget year. This is based off of the total budget expenses at the end of the budget not the total allowable budget.



## **POSSIBLE AND POTENTIAL EMERGENCIES 2007**

January Winter Storm Warning on 12-29-06 was a continuation of the December 19<sup>th</sup> storm. Both storms were all most identical to each other. Both storms had large amounts of freezing rain and sleet involved in the storms. Both storms caused major damage within Buffalo County and the State of Nebraska. Local Emergency Declarations were signed for both storms, due to the extensive and wide-spread damage across the county. A State and Federal Emergency Declaration was signed after the second storm. These storms have caused over 80 million dollars worth of damage and left thousands of people without electricity for weeks. On December 31<sup>st</sup> a fuel truck from a local CO-OP was trying to deliver fuel to a customer near Pleasanton. Due to the Ice Storm and the slick conditions, the fuel truck slid off the road and rolled into the ditch on to its side. All product was either contained in the tanker truck or captured and put into another tank. No fire or Hazmat team was dispatched to the scene; the Sheriff's Office was sent to investigate; a tow truck was requested by the reporting party. The tow truck was able to put the tanker truck back on its wheels without losing any additional product.

The EOC was open and operational for 10 days straight in January, many communities were without electricity for a minimum 7 days, some communities and out lying areas were without electricity for over a month. The EOC was a large coordination effort between the county, local communities, State agencies, first responder departments, volunteer organizations and private contractors. Being without electricity was only half the problem, many of the communities suffered from infrastructure damage and huge amounts of tree debris. The City of Shelton suffered an electrical fire do to the ice storm and lost the city shops as well as all the equipment and vehicles stored inside the shop.

January 24<sup>th</sup> a train derailed in the village of Gibbon; approximately 15 coal cars derailed on the west end of town. No injuries were reported associated with the derailment.

April 24<sup>th</sup> Flash Flood warning. There was a significant amount of rain fall within the Kearney area within a two day period. It was estimated there was at least 8 inches rain which created extensive flooding in the streets of Kearney and in the area small streams and creeks.

May was the storm month of the year with 6 thunderstorm warnings, 6 tornado watches, and 2 flash flood warnings. There was a significant amount of rainfall within the Kearney and Buffalo County area, an estimate of 10 to 12 inches of rain was recorded in places. This rain again caused extensive flooding in the streets of Kearney and in the area small streams and creeks. This rain fall also flooded county roads and farmland. An emergency declaration was signed by the County Board Supervisors; and within days there was a state and federal disaster declared for the State of Nebraska due to the rain and flooding damage in large areas of the state.

June 21<sup>st</sup> there was a Hazardous Materials spill reported on the Avenue M overpass at Interstate 80. Approximately 300 gallons of Liquid Nitrogen 3200 Fertilizer was spilled out of a saddle tank from a farm tractor as it was going over the overpass. Buffalo County Law Enforcement, Kearney Fire and the Buffalo County Hazmat Team responded to the incident. All reports and contacts were handled by this office. The NDEQ, EPA, NEMA and the National Response were contacted.

A car was driven into the NPPD Canal on September 4<sup>th</sup> at approximately 10:45 am. The vehicle was completely submerged. It was noted by the Elm Creek Fire Department and Hazmat technicians that very little fuel and oil escaped from the car. All appropriate notifications were made from this office. Elm Creek Fire removed the car from the canal.

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 the Kearney Fire Department and the Buffalo County Hazmat Team were called out to 1616 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in Kearney at Bob's Total gas station. A contract company out of Grand Island was drilling next to the Benzene (Gas) tanks testing the soil to see if the tanks were leaking. In the process the company drilled into one of the lines that supplies fuel to the pumps; when the pump was energized, fuel leaked out of the cut line onto the concrete, parking drive of the station, out into the road, and into the storm drain. The Kearney Street Department put down a layer of sand on the driveway and road and also vacuumed out the storm drain. Kearney Fire put foam down over the sand to knock down most of the fumes. Kearney Fire also flushed the storm drain with 500 gallons of water to help remove the fumes from the drain. The Hazmat team helped with the best course of action at the scene and coordinated with the IC. In addition, the Hazmat team took air samples in the area as well as in the storm drain. The Emergency Management Office reported to the scene to gather information. All the contacts to the NEMA, NDEQ, and the National Response Center were coordinated out of the EM office. All the appropriate paper work was completed and filed at the EM office.

## PROJECTS 2007

- The 2007 Homeland Security Grants were applied for. \$250,752.00 was requested for 5 different projects within Buffalo County. Additionally 2 Regional grants were written through this office covering 15 counties in the amount of \$823,000.00. No grant money was awarded at the local level in 2007. Rather than awarding grant funds at the local level for specific projects, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency awarded what they are calling block grants to each of the regions all to be used for the State Interoperability project. No action has been taken on this grant to date within this region. All Homeland Security grants from past years have been closed out for Buffalo County.
- CNRI (Central Nebraska Regions for Interoperability) 5 additional counties have come on board and are in the process of completing the second phase of the CNRI project within their individual counties. This phase is the Interop-Solutions Corporation's portion of the project consisting of hardware and software to connect the counties within CNRI both by radio to radio and through VOIP through an internet infrastructure backbone. In addition to the 5 counties, the Nebraska State Patrol has placed this system in each of the troop barracks across the state. The first 10 counties continue work toward completing the third and final phase of the project by implementing the statewide Mutual Aid Channels within the 10 CNRI counties. Great strides have been made in this area in the last months of the year. The User group and Policy group continue to meet every other month to work out issues and develop protocols for the use of the system.
- CNPADC (Central Nebraska Public Access Defibrillator Coalition). The 20 county area has completed its third and final year. Over 450 AED's have been placed within the first 20 county area. Although we still have 65 AED's to place, the grant has been closed out. As soon as the rest of the AED's are placed, the group will disband. The last 65 AED's will be placed without the Coordinator. It was felt by the group it was time to sever ties with the coordinator and finish the project on our own.
- DCC (Dialogic Communications Corporation) Public High Speed Notifications. The high speed notification system is up and running well. Additional training has been provided to those that use the system as well as drills conducted over the last year to improve the proficiency of the user. There are over 700 individuals in the Communicator at this time, with more than 45 notification groups. There has been a new map put in place for the GEO-CAST system this year with updated addresses and locations to stitch phone numbers too. This will improve the proficiency and accuracy for the system greatly.

- All of the 2007 Tier II reports were sent to this office; all reports were logged and submitted to the LEPC and the SEPC.
- The Regional PET calendar has been updated for the (SCPET Region) South Central Planning Exercise and Training Region. No scheduled regional training and exercises were completed in this area in 2007. However there has been a great deal of planning conducted for communications, exercise development, 2007 grant guidelines, regional governance, etc. The group has been working with the NEMA consulting firm ICF to conduct a regional exercise within the SCPET region. It is expected that this functional exercise will take place sometime in July of 2008.
- Mobile Response / Communications vehicle has responded to 6 events over the last year. From teen shootings in Odessa and north of Ravenna, Kearney School Bomb threats, and hostage and barricaded subjects. This vehicle has been put on display for the public to see, and used in different exercises over the last year. A new Satellite internet dish, Satellite phone, and vehicle stabilizers were added to the unit in 2007
- The Buffalo County Emergency Management continues to sit on the steering committee for TRIMRS which has grown into a 21 county area. The TRIMRS new project is the MRC (Volunteer Medical Response Corps). The Buffalo County Emergency Management also sits on this committee as well. Protocols have been developed, and are now being tested before they are put in place. Pamphlets, posters, and brochures have been created and advertisements were started at the end of 2007. As soon as the system is tested and proven, we will begin to actively recruit volunteers for the MRC.
- The Buffalo County Emergency Management office has worked with all first responders as well as appointed and elected officials to get them all (NIMS) National Incident Management Systems compliant. The deadline for compliancy at the local levels was December 2006. It is felt that we have met this deadline in Buffalo County. Volunteer organizations and large businesses are now being targeted in the Buffalo county area to become NIMS compliant as well as City, Town and Village entities.
- The Buffalo County Emergency Management office has gone through two audits in the last year, one being the Nebraska State audit, and the other being a Federal Homeland Security audit conducted by NEMA.
- The COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disasters) has continued to grow over the last 2 years. It is felt that the Safety Fair in September of

2007 was a huge success. We have found many things that we can improve on, most of which will take care of themselves during preparation for the 2008 Safety Fair. The Fair had a good turnout at the Hilltop Mall and we plan on holding the fair at the same location in 2008. Preparation has already begun for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual COAD Safety Fair. The COAD will be a great asset to the Emergency Management Agency in a large event. We have and will continue to rely heavily on the volunteers and community organizations of this group during large scale events within Buffalo County.

- May of 2007 the Emergency Management Office purchased a 32 foot FEMA travel trailer. I traveled to Hope, Arkansas, and brought it back to Buffalo County. The trailer's main purpose is to be used as a recovery unit during large scale events. It is designed to give first responders a place to rest and recuperate in a controlled environment without leaving the scene, giving the responder a quicker recovery and a quicker and safer turn around. I have been slowly putting this unit together over the last year.

### **Long Term Projects Started/Continued in 2007**

- CNRI (Central Nebraska Regions for Interoperability) 22 County area
- CNPADC (Central Nebraska Public Access Defibrillator Coalition) 20 county area
- COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disasters)
- TRIMRS (Tri-City Medical Response system)
- MRC (Medical Response Team)
- NIMS (National Incident Management System)
- Buffalo County Mitigation Plan
- Recovery Unit
- SCPETR (South Central Planning Exercise Training Region) 15 county area

### **2007 Exercises**

- ✓ Medical Surge Tabletop
- ✓ Smith Detection Hazmat ID systems Training/workshop.
- ✓ DCC Dispatch Proficiency Training.
- ✓ Decontamination Shower exercises.
- ✓ COAD Mass destruction Tornado Tabletop
- ✓ Statewide Tornado drill was conducted in Buffalo County.
- ✓ Participated in the Statewide TREX 2005 full scale exercise.
- ✓ Severe Weather Spotter training was conducted for spotters in Buffalo County.

## Annual Goals

Below are the goals for the past year and the upcoming year. The Buffalo County Emergency Management is pleased that many of the goals for the 2006/2007 year were met, and it is anticipated reaching and accomplishing all the goals set for the 2008 year. Goals that were not met in 2007 will continue to be goals for 2008.

### Goals 2007

1. This office is looking into an automated system that will send information back to the Communication Center informing Emergency Management of siren activity. This is particularly important for the City of Kearney as there are 25 sirens in the city at this time. There are not enough staff available to insure that all sirens are working during each monthly test. This will also allow Emergency Management the ability to know if the sirens are working during an actual event, thus helping protect the public during natural and man made disasters. This is a goal carried over from the previous year.
2. Buffalo County Emergency Management will create and develop a Mitigation Plan for the year 2007. This is a carry over goal from the previous year as the NRD did not get to this regional area in 2005. The NRD was supposed to assist the counties in creating this plan over the last two years. This has not happened and now this office is writing the Mitigation Plan for Buffalo County. This was started in 2006 and will be completed by the end of 2007.
3. Acquire funding from the 2007 Homeland Security grant process to be the fiscal agent for a ten county regional area Exercise Training Officer. This person would be a contract person based out of Buffalo County to design and develop exercises for all first responders in the ten county CNRI region. This goal was not met in 2006 as this project was not funded by the State with Homeland Security money. We will try and acquire the funding again this year.
4. Conduct a Full Scale exercise for the CNRI region and test the interoperability of the communications system.
5. Conduct hands on exercises for each of the fire departments for deploying the decon showers and the proper way to decon an unconscious victim.
6. Get approved to be a Storm Ready county from the National Weather Service; the application is in at this time we are now waiting for approval.

7. Conduct Incident Management Interoperable Communications Training at the end user level. This training will be conducted for the all Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement Agencies.

## Goals 2008

1. Work with the SCPETR to develop and conduct Incident Management Interoperable Communications Training at the end user level. This training will be conducted for the all Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement Agencies.
2. Conduct a Full Scale exercise for the CNRI region and test the interoperability of the communications system.
3. Complete the Recovery Unit and have it ready and on stand-by at all times for any Buffalo County response. Find multiple uses for the unit.
4. Conduct more educational classes, trainings, and talks on emergency management and emergency preparedness to local groups.
5. Hold a number of workshops, for the Interoperable Communications System for administrators and communications supervisors within the region.
6. Train all dispatchers within the region on how to use Spark.
7. Help complete the 5 county Interop installation.
8. Move forward to have in place and operational the Mutual Aid frequencies within the CNRI region.
9. Work to improve the Buffalo County Hazmat team through training exercises, conferences and equipment.

